(b) As per O.M. No. S-11017/1/95-CGHS(P) dated 20.9.1995, which was applicable in 1999, CGHS beneficiaries were eligible for post-operative treatment relating to Cardiac diseases in the same institution/ hospital where the surgery was earlier carried out with prior permission of CGHS. The follow-up treatment was, however, subject to the following conditions:-

(i) The reimbursement of consultation fee paid for such treatment by CGHS beneficiaries would be limited to the rates as fixed under CS (MA) Rules.

(ii) The beneficiary would collect all the medicines prescribed in connection with the treatment from the dispensary concerned.

(iii) The expenditure on tests/investigations, if any, would be reimbursed as per the schedule of charges given in the O.M. No. S-11012/4/94-CGHS(P) dated 4.9.95. The tests/investigations for which no rates have been fixed in the said O.M. would be reimbursed in full.

Import of set top boxes

*12. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the permission to import Set Top boxes after drastic cut in import duty would not only result indumping of cheap and poor quality Set Top boxes but it would also adversely affect indigenous manufacturers who can not compete in short term; and

(b) the remedial measures Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) The Consumer Electronics and T.V. Manufacturers' Association (CETMA) & some manufacturers had made an appeal for reduction of Customs duty on the import of components required for manufacture of Set Top Boxes. The import of components was rationalised by the Government to give a boost to the indigenous industry, for manufacturing Set Top

Boxes locally. The reduction of Customs duty on Set Top Boxes was proposed in order to make the Set Top Box affordable to the consumers. The reduction of the Customs duty on import of Set Top Boxes is valid up to 31st July, 2003. The Bureau of Indian Standards has aleady laid down standards for Set Top Boxes in August 2002. Steps have been taken to ensure the quality of the Set Top Boxes/ MSOs have come up with schemes for providing Set Top Boxes to consumers with a refundable deposit and a nominal daily rent. The interests of the indigenous manufacturers have been safeguarded through the rationalisation of the import duty on components, required for manufacturing the boxes locally and through reduction in excise duty.

Restrictions on Indian Goods

†*13. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minsiter of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that import of a number of Indian goods is still restricted in various manners in several member countries of the World Trade Organisation;

(b) if so, the names of such countries togetherwith the Indian goods restricted for import in these countries; and

(c) the value of the exports made from India to each of these countries during the years 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) One of the fundamental principles of the multilateral trading system under WTO is that of the Most Favoured Nation (MFN) Treatment which envisages non-discrimination among member countries for the purpose of trade. Therefore, discrimination or restrictions specific to India goods by other WTO members is not permitted. However, WTO rules authorize restrictions on import of goods based on tariff as agreed upon and also through other types of restrictions which are permissible. Such permissible restrictions include those based on balance of payment grounds, sanitary and phyto sanitary related restrictions, conformity with

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.